

Message Text

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11

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

EUR-12 SAM-01 DHA-02 /081 W
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R 190405Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1102

INFO: RUEHBAC/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 1192

CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

USUN 070

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. LETTER TO THE EDITOR IN POST COURIER OF DECEMBER 16 SIGNED BY A PAPUA NEW GUINEAN CALLED UPON GPNG TO WITHDRAW ITS DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN JAKARTA BECAUSE OF INDONESIAN MILITARY ACTION IN EAST TIMOR. FINAL PARAGRAPH, IN COMPLETE NON-SEQUITUR, STATED "THE US SHOULD BE BLAMED FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF INDONESIA'S INVASION OF EAST TIMOR." ANOTHER LETTER TO THE EDITOR, SIGNED BY AN AUSTRALIAN, CALLED FOR UNDERSTANDING AND REASONABLENESS ON THE PART OF PAPUA NEW GUINEANS.

2. RADIO ON DECEMBER 18 CARRIED BRIEF NEWS ITEM THAT ANTI-NUCLEAR GROUP IN FIJI HAD CALLED UPON GPNG TO SEVER DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH INDONESIA.

3. WE RECEIVED HANDWRITTEN MEMORANDUM ADDRESSED TO "COUNSEL-GENERAL, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA", THROUGH THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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MAIL ON DECEMBER 18 FROM "GOVERNOR-BLACK POWER ORGANIZATION OF PAPUA, P.O. BOX 3635, PORT MORESBY" WHICH ATTACKS INDONESIA AND CONCLUDES "USA, AUSTRALIA AND UNITED NATIONS MUST FORCE INDONESIA TO GET OUT OF EAST TIMOR NOW, NOT IN FUTURE, BUT

NOW."

4. MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE INSTITUTIONS AND LIQUOR LICENSES, PITA LUS, MADE STATEMENT REPORTED IN PRESS DECEMBER 19 CLAIMING PEOPLE LIVING NEAR BORDER WERE IN CONSTANT FEAR OF UNIDENTIFIED SOLDIERS WHO FREQUENT THE AREA. HE WAS QUOTED AS STATING "EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT THE WEST IRIANESE HAVE BEEN SUPPRESSED AND DENIED FREEDOM TO CHOOSE THEIR OWN FUTURE EVER SINCE THE DUTCH LEFT THE AREA." HE WAS ALSO QUOTED AS DESCRIBING INDONESIA'S ACTION ON EAST TIMOR AS "MILITARY INTERVENTION AND IMPERIALIST EXPANSION."

5. COMMENT: PITA LUS, WHO WAS MINISTER FOR POLICE UNTIL THE RECENT CABINET SHAKEUP, IS NOTED FOR HIS PUBLIC STATEMENTS WHICH USUALLY RANGE FROM THE UNDIPLOMATIC TO THE OUTRAGEOUS. HIS CLOSE PERSONAL FRIENDSHIP WITH THE PRIME MINISTER, PLUS HIS STRONG STANDING IN HIS OWN CONSTITUENCY, KEEP HIM FROM BEING PUSHED OUT OF PUBLIC LIFE, HOWEVER.

6. THERE IS GENERAL AGREEMENT AMONG LOCAL OBSERVERS THAT PROTESTS AGAINST THE INDONESIAN ACTION IN EAST TIMOR WOULD HAVE BEEN MUCH MORE VIGOROUS HAD PARLIAMENT BEEN IN SESSION AND HAD THE ACTION OCCURRED DURING FULL UNIVERSITY SESSION. OLMSTED

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TAGS: PGOV, PP, PT
To: STATE
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